



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Liu *et al.*

Art Unit: 1645

Application No. 10/017,168

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

Filed: December 14, 2001

For: COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR
DETECTING TREPONEMA PALLIDUM

Examiner: Vanessa L. Ford

Date: May 21, 2003

I hereby certify that this paper and the documents referred to as being attached or enclosed herewith are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on May 21, 2003 as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to:
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FOR PATENTS, PO BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450.

Tanya M. Harding, Ph.D.
Attorney for Applicant

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TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Enclosed is an Amendment and Response to Restriction Requirement for filing in the above-identified application.

- ☒ No additional fee is required.
- ☒ Please charge any fees that may be required in connection with filing this Amendment and Response to Restriction Requirement to Deposit Account No. 02-4550. A copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☒ Please return the enclosed postcard to confirm that the items listed above have been received.

Respectfully submitted,
KLARQUIST SPARKMAN, LLP

By

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

This is filed in response to the Office action dated April 22, 2003, for which a one-month reply period was set, making the response due May 22, 2003. It is believed that no fee is necessary to submit this Amendment and Response. If the Commissioner determines that a fee is necessary, deposit account authority is provided on the accompanying Transmittal Letter.

Applicants elect Examiner's Group I (methods of detecting the presence of *Treponema pallidum* or anti-treponemal antibodies in a biological sample), and if required provisionally elect sequence species SEQ ID NO: 15, with traverse. Applicants request that the Examiner consider the following amendments and remarks, and withdraw or modify the requirement for species election.

As now permitted by the United States Patent and Trademark Office, this Amendment and Response is submitted in the revised amendment format published at Official Gazette, Vol. 1267, No. 4, page 106, February 25, 2003. Accordingly, the Commissioner agrees to waive the requirement of 37 CFR 1.121(a)-(d) in connection with this Amendment.

Please amend the specification as set forth beginning on page 3 of this Amendment and Response.

Please amend the claims as set forth beginning on page 4 of this Amendment and Response.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this Amendment and Response.

The Conclusion of this Amendment and Response begins on page 10.